

# Ellis Island Oral Interview

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Education Department  
Ellis Island Immigration Museum  
Statue of Liberty National Monument



**Interviewee: Gabrielle Zahuatitla**

Date of Interview: April 19, 2015

Interviewer: Peter Wong

Audio Engineer: Kevin Daley

High School: Urban Media Assembly High School (Manhattan)

Interview for the Groundswell Mural Project

**Gabrielle Zahuatitla:**

Throughout this entire process, what immigration story (or immigration stories) has inspired you the most?

“During the first three weeks we learned about immigration, we watched a video and there were these teenagers explaining their stories about how they could go to college even if they do not have all their papers like a social security number, but when they went for a job all that college and all that time went to waste because places would not accept them. There was this girl who wanted to be a doctor, but after that, they would not let her be a doctor, she did all that work, she tried so hard, that is what she really wanted to be and couldn’t just because she did not have a social security number. That did not make any sense because she worked so hard and she had such high grades, highest in her class, but still that did not matter just because she did not have a sheet of paper that had numbers on it.”